

Claims 1-75 (cancelled previously)

Claims 76-92 (cancelled herewith)

93.(new) A medical image servicing system comprising:

an internet network generally available to the public;

at least one remote subscriber connected to said internet network for transmitting and receiving medical images and information through said internet network, said at least one remote subscriber including a remote computer; and

a single server separate from said at least one remote subscriber and located at a different location from said at least one remote subscriber and connected to said internet network for servicing said at least one remote subscriber upon signalling by said at least one remote subscriber and through said internet network, said single server comprising:

a data base;

means for checking and verifying legitimacy of a remote subscriber comprising a remote computer and seeking to access desired medical images and information by signalling through said internet network;

means for registering in said data base medical images and information transmitted through said internet network by said at least one remote subscriber; and

means for processing and delivering said medical images and information through said internet network to said remote subscriber seeking access after checking and verifying legitimacy of said remote subscriber to said desired medical images and

information, said medical images being associated with at least one image selected from the group consisting of MRI, X-ray CT, Ultrasound, PET, Digitized X-ray and CR; and

wherein said single server further comprising:

means for compressing in data size said medical images when transmitted through said internet network and for decompressing in data size said medical images to original data size when received through said internet network by said one remote subscriber seeking access; and

means for producing backup of said medical images registered in said data base.

94.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said at least one remote subscriber comprises a hard copy device; and wherein said at least one remote subscriber transmits format information including image identifier information to said said hard copy device and through said internet network to said single server; and wherein said hard copy device receives from said single server through said internet network delivery of said medical images corresponding to said image identifier information and then provides a hard copy of said medical images.

95.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said at least one remote subscriber comprises a software executing subscriber running medical software for transmission through said internet network to said single server; and wherein said single server manages medical software and registers said medical software transmitted through said internet network by said at least one remote sub-

subscriber in said data base and causes delivery of said medical software through said internet network to said software executing remote subscriber.

96.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein two or more remote subscribers are provided, each including a remote computer and each connected to said internet network.

97. (new) The system of claim 93, wherein said at least one remote subscriber comprises means for specifying type of image processing to be communicated through said internet network to said single server.

98.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said single server comprises means for informing said at least remote subscriber through said internet network of type of image processing to be applied.

99.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said single server comprises means for establishing communication through said internet network with said at least one remote subscriber when image processing is completed; and means for transmitting through said internet network said medical images subjected to said image processing to said at least one remote subscriber.

100.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said at least one remote subscriber comprises means for transmitting through said internet network to said single server, a request for medical images subjected to image processing; and means for receiving said medical images from said single server through said internet network.

101.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said single server

comprises means for storing each medical image in at least one form before image processing; and means for storing each medical image in at least one form after said image processing.

102.(new) The system of claim 100, wherein said request is for only part of all of said medical images and wherein said part or all of said medical images are sent through said internet network to said at least one remote subscriber.

103.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said single server comprises means for polling said at least one remote subscriber through said internet network to collect medical images before image processing.

104.(new) The system of claim 93, wherein said single server comprises means for sending through said internet network to a delivery destination imaging condition for said medical images.

105.(new) A medical image service method utilizing an internet network generally available to the public, a plurality of remote subscribers, each including a remote computer and connected to the internet network, and a single server separate from said plurality of remote subscribers and located at a different location from said plurality of remote subscribers and connected to the internet network for commonly servicing said plurality of remote subscribers upon signaling therefrom, said method comprising the steps of:

one of said plurality of remote subscribers requesting register, delivery and/or processing of medical images through signals sent through said internet network to said single server;

checking and verifying legitimacy of the request from said one remote subscriber transmitted through said internet network to said single server and when such request is determined to be legitimate causing a signal to be sent through said internet network to said one remote subscriber to request the medical images to be registered, delivered and/or processed;

said one remote subscriber then sending through said internet network said medical images to said single server; and

registering, delivering and/or processing said medical images in a data base disposed in said single server.

106.(new) The method of claim 105, wherein said one remote subscriber requests delivery of said medical images; and comprising the further steps of:

requesting identifier information by said single server through said internet network from said one remote subscriber;

sending identifier information by said one remote subscriber to said single server through said internet network;

reading medical images from said data base in said single server;

sending each medical image from said single server through said internet network to said one remote subscriber; and

displaying said medical images by said one remote subscriber.

107.(new) The method of claim 105, wherein said one remote subscriber requests through said internet network of said single server registration of said medical images; and comprising the further steps of:

requesting imaging conditions by said single server to said one remote subscriber or by said one remote subscriber to said single server through said internet network;

sending said imaging conditions by said one remote subscriber to said single server through said internet network or by said single server to said remote subscriber through said internet network; and

said single server registering said medical images according to imaging conditions in said data base.

108.(new) The method of claim 105, wherein said one remote subscriber requests of said single server by signalling through said internet network processing fo medical images, and comprising the further steps of:

said single server processing said medical images;

said single server then sending results of processing through said internet network to said one remote subscriber; and

causing said one remote subscriber to display results of said processing of said medical images.

109.(new) The method of claim 108, wherein said single server further sends through said internet network to said one remote subscriber request for identification information, and said one remote subscriber sends such identification information to said single server through said internet network; wherein said single server reads medical images from said data base and processes said medical images prior to sending results thereof to said one remote subscriber through said internet network.